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Reference manual has almost everything you wanted to know about taxes

OLYMPIA, Wash., February 2, 2005 — The Washington State Department of Revenue has released the latest edition of its Tax Reference Manual, and it contains almost everything you ever wanted to know about Washington state taxes.

The more than 200-page manual is the latest comprehensive rundown of the history and application of more than 50 state and local taxes. It provides information about the state's overall tax structure, objective discussions of features of each tax type, and how various taxes interact. It also cites the statutory authority of each tax, lists rate changes over the years, and indicates how much each tax has yielded over the past decade.

The report summarizes tax collections for fiscal 2004. The sales tax generated \$5.8 billion in state taxes, or 44.5 percent of all taxes. The business and occupation tax generated a little more than \$2 billion, or 16 percent, while the state school levy was the third largest source of revenue at \$1.5 billion, or 11.7 percent. Fourth was the motor vehicle fuel tax at \$734 million, or 5.6 percent. The real estate excise tax was fifth at \$615.6 million or 4.7 percent. Altogether, a little more than \$13 billion in state taxes was collected in fiscal 2004.

The only thing the manual doesn't include is instructions for filing state taxes. For that information, go to <http://dor.wa.gov> or call 1-800-647-7706.

Access the tax reference manual at
http://dor.wa.gov/content/statistics/2005/Tax_Reference_2005.

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